



**State of Arizona**

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Governor

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## **Statement by Governor Brewer**

### *Federal Government Deals Blow to Northern Arizona Economy*

"I am disappointed by the U.S Department of Interior's decision today to ban uranium mining on more than 1 million acres of federal land near the Grand Canyon. This is yet another instance of the federal government engaging in excessive and unnecessary regulation, which is impeding the creation of jobs and economic growth.

"The 20-year ban comes at the expense of hundreds of high-paying jobs and approximately \$10 billion worth of activity for the Arizona economy. Our state has years of experience with uranium mining in northern Arizona. Further, both the Arizona Geological Survey and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality have submitted findings that uranium mining – conducted lawfully and with proper oversight – represents a minimal environmental risk to the Grand Canyon and Colorado River.

"The Grand Canyon is a timeless treasure and Arizona's most recognizable landmark. Nobody wants to see it harmed. But I believe that environmental protection and economic growth are not mutually exclusive. We could and should have both."

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